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October 27, 2017 1620 EDT

## **HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA MANAGEMENT REPORT**

*Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources.*

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### **National Incident Management Objectives**

Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA responders is considered at all times.

Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.

Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.

Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.

Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and wastewater systems.

Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.

Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to ensure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.

Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.

Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination under the National Disaster Recovery Framework regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

## Executive Summary

*The schedule for management reports is every Tuesday and Friday.*

### **Region 2**

- Power remains out for about 80% of the residents of Puerto Rico (PR) and the United States Virgin Islands (USVI). USVI anticipates restoration of power to 90% of clients by the end of November 2017. PR Governor Rossello has set a similar goal for December, but it is not certain this schedule can be met.
  - Overall there are a lot of issues in St. Croix and there is a need for electrical and mechanical engineering support. Most of the emergency power needs have been met.
- EPA teams assessed the Dorado Groundwater Contamination Superfund site in Caguas, where reports indicated residents might be extracting water from the wells on the sites.
  - **Site Security:** The Puerto Rico Aqueducts Sewer Authority (PRASA) has stationed private security personnel at wells 2, 4, 5, and 6 to mitigate access by the local community.
  - **Sample Results:** EPA has completed sampling of the well locations. Validated results from this sampling are expected on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- A barge transporting equipment to PR was set to depart on or about October 26<sup>th</sup>, but was cancelled. The barge is waiting for critical electrical equipment as part of the relief effort. The new departure date is on October 30<sup>th</sup>. EPA's Emergency Rescue Response Service (ERRS) contractor did have another barge leave from New Jersey on October 26<sup>th</sup> and another scheduled to leave on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- As of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 22% of the PRASA-served population is without access to drinking water (DW) service; comparable data for USVI is not available. PR and USVI have island-wide boil water orders.
- As of October 26<sup>th</sup>, 14% of the sewage treatment plants in PR remain inoperable due to damage to the trunk lines that bring the sewage to the plants, or damage to or lack of electric power at pump stations. In USVI, damage to sewage systems was less severe, but plants do not have primary power, and lack sufficient generators or generator fuel.

### **Region 4**

*Region 4 reports only on Tuesdays. This information is current as of Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.*

- As of October 24<sup>th</sup>, Landfill Technical Specialists assessed 146 Disaster Debris Management Sites (DDMS) in the Florida Keys.
- As of October 24<sup>th</sup>, the EPA Container Recovery Group has recovered 4,362 items, including drums, oil containers, and propane tanks. These items are being stored at the container staging area at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport for categorization and repackaging prior to recycling or disposal.
- As of October 24<sup>th</sup>, EPA and USCG field teams recovered 1,289 vessels of the 2,491 identified vessels—1,202 vessels remain.

## Regional Mission Assignments and Funding

- In response to a formal Budget Data Request, the Office of Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) plans to submit a supplemental funding request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for support of hurricane response and recovery actions in Regions 2, 4, and 6. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Regions 2, 4, and 6 as well as other agency offices provided additional details to answer questions for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and OMB.

EPA Region	Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
Region 2	4339DR-PR-EPA-04	\$6,000,000	To deploy personnel to coordinate and execute all necessary assessments, evaluations, sampling and analysis services/support and other necessary actions associated with ensuring the safety and quality of DW and WW systems, in support of PRASA, Puerto Rico Department of Health (PRDH).
	4339DR-PR-EPA-03*	\$10,000,000	Removal, cleanup and disposal of oil and hazmat; collect and dispose of HHW; monitor immediate threats to public H&S and the environment in PR.
	VI-17090102-EPA-01	(\$10,000)	Expired
	4335DR-VI-EPA-01	(\$100,000)	Expired
	4335DR-VI-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment of oil and hazardous materials releases, contaminated debris and other environmental events in USVI.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-04	\$10,000,000	Conduct oil and hazardous materials field operations, including cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials and oil, and response to orphaned containers in order to mitigate actual and potential threats to public health and safety.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-06	\$2,000,000	EPA provides support preparing for site-specific platforms for situational awareness; environmental data management; operational deployment plans; documentation of assessment activities and results; resource and financial tracking, accountability and cost documentation.
	PR-17090102-EPA-01	(\$20,000)	Expired
	3384EM-PR-EPA-01	(\$75,000)	Expired
	4336DR-PR-EPA-01	(\$125,000)	Expired
	4336DR-PR-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment and reconnaissance of oil and hazardous materials release, contaminated debris and storm impacted infrastructure which may pose a threat to federal responders, as well as, environmental harm in PR.
	4339DR-PR-EPA-01	\$303,000	EPA to FEMA NRCC or PR JFO/EOC
	4340DR-VI-EPA-01	\$130,000	EPA to FEMA NRCC or USVI JFO/EOC
	4340DR-VI-EPA-04	\$2,100,000	EPA to RRCC, JFO, EPA REOC, State EOC and other coordination venues to support FEMA response operations in the USVI.
Region 4	4337DR-FL-EPA-05	(\$90,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-03	(\$525,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-04	(\$9,000,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-07	(\$675,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-08	\$10,000,000	Provide oil and hazardous material field response in support of FEMA response operations providing specialized expertise, conducting damage assessment of oil/hazmat waste impact evaluating hazards; and/or response, removal, or disposal of actual and potential oil discharges, and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants and remove pollutants from vessels in or upon navigable waters and adjoining shorelines through November 30 <sup>th</sup> with a state cost share of 10%.
	4337DR-FL-EPA-09	\$675,000	Provide funding for EPA Landfill Specialty Teams through November 30 <sup>th</sup> with a state cost share of 10%.
<b>Total Active MAs</b>	<b>\$43,224,000</b>		

\*A signed MA task order documenting the additional task requested by the PR Solid Waste Authority was received.

**Total Number of Regional Personnel Involved in Response (as reported on by Region 2 on October 27<sup>th</sup> and Region 4 on October 24<sup>th</sup>)**

Type	R2 Personnel	R4 Personnel	Total Regional Personnel
EPA*	180	25	205
Contractors	109	44	153
Totals	289	69	358

*\*These numbers include CEPD personnel.*

**Force Laydown for USVI\* and PR (as reported by R2 on October 27<sup>th</sup>)**

- Region 2 entered resource orders into the WebEOC Personnel Resource Log.

Type	Personnel USVI	Personnel PR	Total Deployment
EPA*	23	80	103
Contractors	46	39	85
Totals	69	119	188

*\*These numbers include CEPD personnel.*

**Region 2 Significant Activities**

- EPA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Virgin Islands Department of Health, the Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), and the Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture met on October 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss EPA's proposed decision-making matrix for drinking water assessment and follow-up. The coordination meeting achieved its primary objective of establishing a process to ensure safe drinking water for citizens/responders living in the territory as a result of the potential impacts due to Hurricane Irma/Maria while clarifying endpoints for water quality assistance. The procedures developed will apply to the entire USVI territory.
- Federal Occupational Health (FOH) and FEMA resolved inventory storage problems. Vaccinations should arrive on the island by October 28<sup>th</sup>. EPA Joint Field Office personnel are coordinating EPA personnel lists with FEMA so vaccinations can be provided promptly.
- EPA developed a sampling and analysis plan for Department of Defense (DOD) trucks used for potable water distribution. PR DOH reviewed and approved the plan on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The contract for transport and disposal of the medical waste on St. Croix (STX) and St. Thomas (STT) was awarded on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Operations began on STX on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- U.S. Customs is requiring EPA's EERS contractor to pay a tax on supplies that have arrived in STT/STJ and STX prior to release, despite the fact that there is a U.S. Customs exemption for supplies for entities supporting hurricane relief efforts. FEMA determined that any tax paid by EPA or its contractors would be reimbursed. On October 26<sup>th</sup> the tax was paid and equipment on STT was released. The tax will be paid in STX and equipment should be released on October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- EPA personnel on PR are observing a health & safety "stand-down" on October 25<sup>th</sup> to verify medical monitoring/screening, training, and vaccination requirements.
- EPA ERRS contractors in Yabucoa, PR responded to a report of multiple leaking transformers and recovered oil from the downed transformers, and

addressed released oil and contaminated soil. The incident was referred to the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) for follow up on the damaged transformers.

### Superfund and Oil Sites

- There are 34 Superfund and oil sites (30 in PR and 4 in USVI). EPA finished post storm emergency assessments at Superfund and Oil Response Sites in PR and USVI. The sites are stable, do not have offsite impacts, and will not need emergency response work. Any remaining site issues as a result of the storm will be addressed by the Remedial Process Manager (RPM), On Scene Coordinator, or the Department of Defense (DOD) as part of the ongoing site project work. The following sites will need additional follow up before we complete our tracking efforts.
  - Barceloneta Landfill – Site is inaccessible and assessment will be accomplished by RPM once access is achieved.
  - Culebra – Federal Facility lead for assessment. DOD is addressing the site.
  - Dorado Groundwater Contamination – Site secured. Water sampling ongoing.
  - Scorpio Recycling – Follow up needed to check drums and containers on site.

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal, and Oil)						
Site	Type	Phase 1	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
		Post-Storm Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
PUERTO RICO						
Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area (Vieques)	NPL	10/20	Yes	10/23	No	10/26
Barceloneta Landfill	NPL	Inaccessible				
Battery Recycling Co. (Puerto Rico Battery)	Removal & NPL	09/22	No	-	No	09/22
Cabo Rojo Groundwater Contamination	NPL	10/19	No	-	No	10/19
Cidra Groundwater Contamination	NPL	10/05	No	-	No	10/05
Corozal Well	Removal & NPL	09/24	No	-	No	09/24
Culebra	Other	Federal Facility Lead for this Assessment				
Dorado Groundwater Contamination	NPL	10/12	Yes			
Fibers Public Supply Wells	NPL	10/05	Yes	10/26	No	10/26
Fort Buchanan	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
Frontera Creek	NPL	10/05	No	-	No	10/05
GE Wiring Devices	NPL	10/06	Yes	10/26	No	10/26
Guayanilla Bay Oil Spill	Oil	10/06	Yes	10/26	No	10/26
Hormigas Groundwater Plume	NPL	10/06	Yes	10/26	No	10/26

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal, and Oil)						
Site	Type	Phase 1	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
		Post-Storm Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
Jansen, Inc.	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
Juncos Landfill	NPL	09/30	Yes	10/05	No	10/05
Maunabo Urbano Public Wells	NPL	10/12	No	-	No	10/12
Naval Security Group Activity	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
Papelera Puertorriqueña, Inc.	NPL	09/29	No	-	No	09/29
Pesticide Warehouse 1	NPL	10/04	Yes	10/26	No	10/26
Pesticide Warehouse 3	NPL	10/04	Yes	10/26	No	10/26
Prepa Palo Seco General Depot	Other	10/12	No	-	-	10/12
Puerto Rico Olefins	Other	10/11	Yes	10/16	No	10/16
Puma Caribe (CAPECO)	Oil Response	09/21	No	-	No	09/21
RCA Del Caribe	NPL	10/12	No	-	No	10/12
San Germán Groundwater Contamination	NPL	10/12	Yes	10/16	No	10/16
Scorpio Recycling Inc.	NPL	10/05	Yes			
U.S. Naval Station	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
Upjohn Facility	NPL	09/30	Yes	10/20	No	10/20
V&M Albaladejo	NPL	10/12	No	-	-	10/12
Vega Alta Public Supply Wells	NPL	09/30	Yes	10/16	No	10/16
Vega Baja Solid Waste Disposal	NPL	10/04	No	-	No	10/04
USVI						
Cruz Bay Oil Tank	Oil	10/09	Yes	10/11	Yes	10/24
Island Chemical Corp/Virgin Islands Chemical Corp	NPL	10/05	No	-	No	10/05
Krum Bay Oil Spill at WAPA Facility	Oil	10/01	No	-	No	10/01
Tutu Wellfield	NPL	10/03	Yes	10/26	No	10/26

#### Regulated Facilities in PR and USVI

- The Regulated Facility Team (RFT) continues to provide effective compliance assistance to Risk Management Plan (RMP), Facility Response Plans (FRP), and Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) regulated facilities.

- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, EPA began review of 31 pesticide facilities for possible field assessment. Some of these facilities were already visited under the RMP/SPCC/FRP programs.

Facility Type	Total Field Assessments Completed to Date (as of October 25 <sup>th</sup> )	Total # of Facilities to be Assessed
<b>Puerto Rico</b>		
RMP	81	56
FRP	29	23
SPCC (non-FRP)	134	0*
Total	244	79
<b>USVI</b>		
RMP	1	1
FRP	7	6
SPCC (non-FRP)	67	0*
Total	75	7

*\*Total number of SPCC facilities assessed is identified by impacted geographic areas.*

#### **Drinking Water/Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in PR**

- EPA staff are participating in ongoing PRASA facility assessments.
  - Out of PRASA's 51 facilities, 6 wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are non-operational, 3 of which are upstream of a drinking water intake.
  - 7 WWTPs are working on primary power, 3 of which are located upstream of a drinking water intake. They are:
    - Utua (2.0 MGD) - Main trunk sewer collapsed, no sewage reaching the plant. A contractor is on site.
    - Ciales (1.5 MGD) - Main trunk sewer collapsed, no sewage reaching the plant. A contractor is on-site.
    - Corozal (1.25 MGD) - Main trunk sewer collapsed, no sewage reaching the plant. PRASA already has a contractor on site. It may take until 11/9 for repairs
  - 27 of the 115 drinking water treatment plants (WTPs) operated by PRASA are out of service.
  - 88 WTPs are working on alternate power or primary power.
  - 22% of the population is without drinking water services due to the lack of primary power, lack of diesel, operational problems, or clogged intakes.
  - Assessments are complete at around 80% of PRASA's 800 sanitary pump stations. As of October 27<sup>th</sup>, at least 161 sanitary pump stations are overflowing sewage due to lack of power, malfunctioning power generator, or pumping problems. Of these 161 pump stations, 70 are located upstream of a water supply intake.
  - PR's biggest concern is the largest pump station, Torrecillas Pump Station that pumps around 25 MGD suffered major damages due to flooding. PREPA obtained a 1 megawatt generator, and expected to energize the pump station on October 25<sup>th</sup> but it had problems with the electric panel. PRASA and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are on site trying to get the station energized.

- Non-PRASA drinking water facilities serve approximately 4% of the PR populations (PRASA systems service the other 96%). EPA is working with PR Department of Health, DOD, Department of Health and Human Services, and FEMA, in assessing the non-PRASA drinking water systems throughout PR. Such systems provide drinking water from wells and surface water to isolated communities located in rural areas in PR.

Drinking Water Plants Out of Service in PR (as of October 27 <sup>th</sup> )		
Name	Volume Processed (MGD)	Status
Utua Urbano	3.5	Raw water pump station alternate power unit (APU) out of service.
Morovis Sur	4.0	APU out of service.
Sanamuerto	0.5	APU out of service.
Almirante Sur	1.0	Raw water pump station flooded.
Negros	2.5	APU out of service.
Guajataca	2.0	Water supply clogged, being cleaned by DOD. This should be resolved next week.
Sabana Grande	0.75	Raw water intake clogged.
Coamo Urbano	1.05	Collapsed raw water intake.
Accituna	2.5	Raw water pipeline broken.
Apeadero	0.25	Raw water pipeline broken.
Malpaso	0.2	APU out of service.
Lizas	1.0	APU out of service.
Barranquitas Urbano	0.7	APU out of service.
Rio Arriba	0.25	Raw water intake collapsed.
Quebrada	2.0	Raw water pump station out of service.
Indiera Alta	0.5	Raw water pump station flooded.
Culebras Alto	.33	APU out of service.
Canlizo	.14	APU out of service.
Mameyes Arriba	.43	APU out of service.
Laras Nueva	4.0	APU out of service.
Mameyes Abajo	.22	Raw pump water station APU out of service.
Santa Isabel	1.0	Raw pump water station APU out of service.
Las Delicias	.5	APU out of service.
Jaguas Pesas	.25	Raw pump water station APU out of service.



Drinking Water Plants Out of Service in PR (as of October 27 <sup>th</sup> )		
Name	Volume Processed (MGD)	Status
Morovis Norte	.5	APU out of service.
Corozal Urbano	1.5	Raw pump water station APU out of service.
Las Marias Nueva	2.2	Operational Problems at the facility.

Wastewater Treatment Plants Out of Service in PR (as of October 26 <sup>th</sup> )		
Name	Volume Processed (MGD)	Status
Utuaado	2.0	Main trunk sewer collapsed, no sewage reaching the plant. *
Ciales	1.5	Collapsed trunk sewer line. *
Corozal	1.25	Main trunk sewer collapsed, no sewage reaching the plant. PRASA already has a contractor on site. Repairs may not be completed until November 9 <sup>th</sup> . *
Dorado	4.05	Facility suffered major equipment damages since it was completely flooded.
Toa Alta	0.8	Plant was flooded, major equipment damages.
Santa Isabel	5.5	Alternate power unit out of service but is being repaired.
Yabucoa	1.5	Alternate power unit out of service.
*Denotes WWTPs upstream of drinking water intakes.		

### Drinking Water Assessments in USVI

- The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) established a 3-month alternative DW monitoring procedure, and will re-evaluate the need to continue at the end of the 3-month period. The monitoring procedure will shift from compliance monitoring to surveillance monitoring, with focus on bacteria and chlorine. Additionally, a boil water advisory will remain in place across the USVI. EPA continues to coordinate drinking water sampling with DPNR. DPNR continues to notify the proprietors of the affected systems to ensure proper disinfection measures are taken.

### Waste Water Assessments in USVI

- St. Croix:
  - Main Plant Anguilla (Airport) – Currently on primary power. No significant damage from Maria. No current needs.
  - Main Feeders (Pump Stations):
    - LBJ – Currently Station is OFFLINE. Pump failure. Full electrical assessment needed – EPA passed on a request to FEMA for assistance on 10/26. BYPASSING TO THE STREET – High flow station.
    - Figtree – Currently Station is online – FEMA generator (Maintained and Fueled by FEMA)
    - Lagoon Street – Currently Station is OFFLINE. Pumps are down – electrical damage. EPA passed on request for assistance to FEMA on

10/26. BYPASSING TO THE STORM CHANNEL (GUT) – High flow station.

- Lift Stations:
  - Pearl B Larson – Currently OFFLINE – School is closed so no flow – no bypass occurring.
  - Gallows Bay – Currently online using a Waste Management Association (WMA) generator. There is a storm-water problem here though creating serious flooding.
  - Old Barracks (Port Terminal) – Currently online using WMA generator. There is a storm-water problem here though creating serious flooding.
  - Humbug #1 – Currently OFFLINE – Needs a FEMA generator. BYPASSING TO THE GUT- medium flow station.
  - Humbug #2- Currently online using a WMA generator.
  - Barren Spot – Currently Online using a WMA generator.
  - Ricardo Richards – Currently online using a FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
  - Mon Bijou – Currently online using WMA generator.
  - Concordia – Currently online using a WMA generator.
  - Campo Rico – OFFLINE due to line blockage. BYPASSING TO THE STREET – Medium flow station. Generator power available.
  - Bay Road Smithfield – Currently online using a FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
- William's Delight – Currently online using a WMA generator.
- St. Thomas:
  - Waste Water Treatment Plants:
    - Red Point (Pedrito Francois) WWTP – Currently online on primary power.
    - Brass View WWTP – Currently online using a WMA generator.
    - Vessup Bay WWTP – Currently online using WMA generator.
    - Mangrove Lagoon WWTP – Currently online using WMA generator.
    - Bordeaux WWTP – Currently online using WMA generator.
  - Pump (Lift) Stations:
    - Amco (Bornfield) Pump Station – Currently online using a WMA generator.
    - Nana Gut Pump Station – Currently online using a FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
    - Brass View Pump Station – Currently OFFLINE – electrical damage to the pumps – WMA is handling through subcontracted electrician. BYPASSING TO THE GUT – Low to medium flow station.
    - Tutu Upper Pump Station – Currently online using a FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
    - Tutu Lower Pump Station – Currently online using a WMA generator.
    - Nadir Pump Station – Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
    - Bovoni Pump Station – Currently online using WMA generator.
    - Long Bay Pump Station – Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
    - Cancryn Pump Station – Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
    - Sub Base Pump Station – Currently online using WMA generator.
  - Airport Lift Station – Currently online with primary power.
- St. John:
  - Cruz Bay WWTP – Currently online using WMA generator.
  - George Simmonds WWTP - Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
  - Cruz Bay Pump Station – Currently online using WMA generator.

- Power Boyd Pump Station– Currently OFFLINE - needs a generator from FEMA – Spatial issue here. BYPASSING TO THE GUT – Low Flow station.
- Pond Mouth Pump Station– Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).
- George Simmonds Pump Station - Currently online using FEMA generator (FEMA fueling and maintaining).

#### **Total Region 2 Drinking Water/Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments**

Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments (as of October 27 <sup>th</sup> )		
Assessment Types	Total Assessments on PR	Total Assessments on USVI
On-Site DW Assessments	228	700
On-Site WW Assessments	229	23

#### **PR and USVI Air Monitoring Activities**

- The PR Environmental Quality Board (EQB) plans to conduct an assessment on the conditions of the ambient air monitoring network. The network went offline prior to Hurricane Maria's landfall. There is no update or information on the status or damages. EQB will staff an assessment team once their employees are available.

#### **PR Debris Recovery**

- The Hazardous Debris Assessment Teams are making periodic visits to debris management and collection areas to segregate and stage hazardous waste.
- EPA conducted assessments of potential staging area locations in PREMA Region 5 (Hormigueros, Cabo Rojas, Sabada Grande, San German, Lajas and Mariaco), PREMA Region 7 (Adjuntas) as well as several municipalities in PREMA Region 5.
- EPA met with the municipality representatives in Anasco, Aguada, and San Sebastian, within PREMA Zone 4 to perform debris management outreach. The team documented site conditions at debris staging areas in Anasco and Aguada.
- The USACE is developing plans for burning of vegetative debris, including specifics on the number of burners, the number and location or sites, type of burners, and method of deployment.
- The USACE closed open dumping at the Campanilla site, but expects that some of the public may continue dumping at this location. EPA began periodic surveillance and collection at the site on HHW on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **USVI Debris Recovery**

- EPA received final selection for HHW and white goods collection sites on STX, is waiting for DPNR to identify a staging location on STT, and visited STJ to investigate potential collection and staging areas.
- USVI is allowing the burning of vegetative debris. USACE intends to segregate construction and demolition (C&D) debris prior to burn operations and Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA) will handle the C&D debris.

#### **Orphan Container, Pollution Response, and Vessels in PR and USVI**

- EPA and USCG identified and verified 251 abandoned vessels in PR. Data is being managed using the Response Manager database.
- In USVI, EPA contractors continued inputting the vessel assessment info into Response Manager database. There have been 272 targeted vessels identified to date.

#### **EPA Headquarters Significant Activities**

- The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of EPA Regions 2 and 4 responses to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. For the Hurricanes Irma and Maria responses, the HQ EOC is coordinating on several levels with EPA Regions 2 and 4, and other Federal agencies.
- The HQ EOC is staffed with 9 EPA personnel and 3 contractors. The HQ EOC also deployed personnel to the FEMA National Response and Coordination Center's (NRCC) ESF-10 desk.
- EPA Senior Management on the Policy Coordination Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Maria and Irma.

### **Other EPA Activities**

#### **OECA**

- CID has 2 agents assigned to PR and available for security details. Additional agents will be mobilized to PR as needed.
- On October 20<sup>th</sup>, EPA consulted with USACE, Commonwealth, and Federal resource agencies
- On October 20<sup>th</sup>, USACE issued an emergency modification to Buckeye Caribbean Terminals LLC's permit, originally issued in August, to dredge an approach channel to Yabucoa Harbor and ocean dispose the dredged material. The original permit required upland disposal. There was expedited consultation with EPA, PR Commonwealth, and Federal resource agencies. USACE has also been awarded emergency funding to dredge Mayaguez and Arecibo Harbors, and have initiated coordination with EPA to expedite the normal regulatory process of sampling, testing, etc.
- On October 20<sup>th</sup>, EPA extended a No Action Assurance (NAA) to Merck, Sharp and Dohme Corp. to enable the continued use of a fifth emergency generator located at its Las Piedras PR facility. The NAA expires on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Communications**

- Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) continue to provide assistance with developing drinking water notifications, including notification letters to affected production facilities, mold procedures, and cistern treatment guidance.
- CIC staff are working with the Region 2 EOC to collect fact sheets used in previous disaster recovery efforts to assist with collection of household hazardous waste activities.
- On October 26<sup>th</sup> Region 2 published a press release describing status of debris assessments, marine operations, and actions at superfund/oil sites and regulated facilities.
- Region 2 published a press release on October 24<sup>th</sup> highlighting progress on NPL/oil/removal sites and necessary follow-up.
- A story map with information about Region 2's response efforts is now under development.
- A video, entitled "Community Water Assessment Mission," is now posted at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/557519/community-water-assessment-mission>.
- Region 2, Region 4, and HQ activities related to Irma and Maria response efforts are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-irma> and [www.epa.gov/hurricane-maria](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-maria), respectively.